

HOLYOKE (Mass.)

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## Just Another Political Party? /

Do the Communists just naturally prefer to do things the hard way? There is no reason to think so. Khrushchev and Bulganin have lately been going about their regular Russian business in a Dale Carnegie sort of way—and why not, if it works?

The warning recently issued by Allen W. Dulles, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, emphasizes that Communist "peaceful" penetration tactics are finding the guard down in many countries on the political front. When fear of the Reds dies down, they can make considerable parliamentary gains.

In Italy, France and Indonesia the Communists are again making headway in parliamentary representation. Dulles told the House Committee on Un-American Activities that the situation is beginning to get serious. The Reds have 143 members in the Italian parliament of 590, and can get the support of 75 fellow-traveling Leftist Socialists. In France, the Reds have about 150 in the Parliament of 600 deputies.

Last fall the Communists got 17 per cent of the vote in Indonesia — they have 39 members in the Assembly.

The Communists make no secret of their interest in gaining political power through regular political channels. They are skilled at using the freedoms of parliamentary government for its own destruction. Although they have never been voted into a majority position, Dulles warns that "it is also true that the Communist has moved in without having a majority status" in some countries.

This is a slow way to go about gaining territory and not, for the Reds, the easiest. The claim of the other Mr. Dulles, the Secretary of State, is that our foreign policy has driven the Russians to use respectable methods to gain their ends. How easy this is for them depends entirely on how successful they are in convincing people they are "just another political party," that Russia is just another country with arms and steel for sale, and that the Soviets are better friends to have than the nations of the West.

They have found it pretty easy to do this in countries where the West is distrusted as imperialist, and in countries where the fear of war is still dominant.